RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
JAN 0 7 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling local hardware or software using a browser, comprising:

directing an HTTP request from a browser to a local HTTP microserver having an IP address;

at the HTTP microserver, parsing the HTTP request to identify a target interface module, and directing the HTTP request to the target interface module; [and]

at the target interface module, generating an API call from the HTTP request;

sending the API call to a middleware software module, wherein the middleware software module controls a lower level software code segment that comprises a television tuner driver;

controlling a television tuner using the television tuner driver; and

wherein the HTTP request from the browser comprises a request to change a television channel and the API call directs the television tuner driver to change the television channel selected by the television tuner.

2. - 6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~claim 3~~, wherein the lower level software code segment carries out memory write operations under the direction of the API call.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the HTTP request is directed to the HTTP microserver by a network stack.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the network stack comprises a TCP/IP network stack.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling local hardware or software using a browser, comprising:

directing a request from a browser to a local microserver having an address;

at the microserver, parsing the request to identify a target interface module, and directing the request to the target interface module; and

at the target interface module, generating an application call from the request;

sending the application call to a middleware software module, wherein the middleware software module controls a lower level software code segment comprising a television tuner driver;

controlling a television tuner using the television tuner driver; and

wherein the request from the browser comprises a request to change a television channel and the application call directs the television tuner driver to change the television channel selected by the television tuner.

11. - 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 ~~claim 12~~, wherein the lower level software code segment carries out memory write operations under the direction of the application call.

17. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the request comprises an HTTP request and wherein the microcserver comprises an HTTP microserver and wherein the HTTP request is directed to the HTTP microserver by a network stack.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the network stack comprises a TCP/IP network stack.

19. (Original) A television set-top box, comprising:

a programmed processor;

a browser software segment running on the programmed processor;

a user interface software segment running on the programmed processor that receives a user command to select a link using the browser software segment;

a network stack receiving messages directed to an IP address from the browser software segment in response to the user command selecting a link, and issuing an HTTP request in response thereto directed to the IP address;

a middleware software module running on the programmed processor; and

an HTTP microserver having an IP address and running as a software segment on the programmed processor, the HTTP microserver comprising an interface module that interfaces with the middleware software module by issuing an API call to the middleware software module in response to the HTTP request, the API call implementing the user command.

20. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 19, further comprising a hardware driver, and wherein the middleware software module interfaces to and controls the hardware driver.

21. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 20, further comprising a television tuner, and wherein the hardware driver comprises a television tuner hardware driver.

22. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 21, wherein the user command comprises a command to change a selected television channel, the API call directs the middleware software module to change channels and the middleware software module directs the television tuner driver to change a channel tuned by the television tuner.

23. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 19, further comprising a segment of lower level software code and wherein the lower level software code segment carries out memory write operations under the direction of the API call.

24. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 19, further comprising a segment of lower level software code and wherein the lower level software code segment carries out memory read operations under the direction of the API call.

25. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 19, wherein the network stack comprises a TCP/IP network stack.

26. (Currently Amended) A television set-top box, comprising:

a programmed processor;

a browser software segment running on the programmed processor;

a user interface software segment running on the programmed processor that receives user commands to select a link using the browser software segment;

a network stack receiving messages directed to an IP address from the browser software segment in response to user commands that select ~~selecting~~ links, and issuing HTTP requests in response thereto directed to the IP address;

a plurality of middleware software modules running on the programmed processor; and

an HTTP microserver having an IP address and running as a software segment on the programmed processor, the HTTP microserver comprising a plurality of interface modules that interfaces with the plurality of middleware software modules by issuing API calls to the plurality of middleware software <u>modules</u> ~~module~~ in response to the HTTP <u>requests</u> ~~request~~, the API calls implementing the user commands.

27. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 26, further comprising a hardware driver, and wherein one of the middleware software modules interfaces to and controls the hardware driver.

28. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 27, further comprising a television tuner, and wherein the hardware driver comprises a television tuner hardware driver.

29. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 28, wherein one of the user commands comprises a command to change a selected television channel, and wherein one of the API calls directs the one of the middleware software modules to change channels and the one of the middleware software modules directs the television tuner driver to change a channel tuned by the television tuner.

30. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 26, further comprising a segment of lower level software code and wherein the lower level software code segment carries out memory write operations under the direction of one of the API calls.

31. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 26, further comprising a segment of lower level software code and wherein the lower level software code segment carries out memory read operations under the direction of the API call.

32. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 26, wherein the network stack comprises a TCP/IP network stack.

33. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 26, further comprising an HTTP request parser receiving the HTTP requests and selecting one of the plurality of interface modules to direct the HTTP request.

34. (Currently Amended) A television set-top box, comprising:

a programmed processor;

a browser software segment running on the programmed processor;

a user interface software segment running on the programmed processor that receives user commands to select a link using the browser software segment;

a network stack receiving messages directed to an address from the browser software segment in response to user commands that select ~~selecting~~ links, and issuing requests in response thereto directed to the address;

a plurality of middleware software modules running on the programmed processor; and

a microserver having the address and running as a software segment on the programmed processor, the microserver comprising a plurality of interface modules that interfaces with the plurality of middleware software modules by issuing application calls to the plurality of middleware software modules ~~module~~ in response to the requests ~~request~~, the application calls implementing the user commands.

35. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 34, further comprising a hardware driver, and wherein one of the middleware software modules interfaces to and controls the hardware driver.

36. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 35, further comprising a television tuner, and wherein the hardware driver comprises a television tuner hardware driver.

37. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 36, wherein one of the user commands comprises a command to change a selected television channel, and wherein one of the application calls directs the one of the middleware software modules to change channels and the one of the middleware software modules directs the television tuner driver to change a channel tuned by the television tuner.

38. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 34, further comprising a segment of lower level software code and wherein the lower level software code segment carries out memory write operations under the direction of one of the application calls.

39. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 34, further comprising a segment of lower level software code and wherein the lower level software code segment carries out memory read operations under the direction of the application call.

40. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 34, wherein the network stack comprises a TCP/IP network stack.

41. (Original) The television set-top box of claim 34, further comprising a request parser receiving the requests and selecting one of the plurality of interface modules to direct the request.

42. (Original) A television set-top box, comprising:

a programmed processor;

a browser software segment running on the programmed processor;

a user interface software segment running on the programmed processor that receives a user command to select a link using the browser software segment;

a TCP/IP network stack receiving messages directed to an IP address from the browser software segment in response to the user command selecting a link, and issuing an HTTP request in response thereto directed to the IP address;

a middleware software module running on the programmed processor;

an HTTP microserver having an IP address and running as a software segment on the programmed processor, the HTTP microserver comprising an interface module that interfaces with the middleware software module by issuing an API call to the middleware software module in response to the HTTP request, the API call implementing the user command;

a television tuner hardware driver, wherein the middleware software module interfaces to and controls the television tuner hardware driver;

a television tuner; and

wherein the user command comprises a command to change a selected television channel, the API call directs the middleware software module to change channels and the middleware software module directs the television tuner driver to change a channel tuned by the television tuner.

43. (Original) A television set-top box, comprising:

a programmed processor;

a browser software segment running on the programmed processor;

a user interface software segment running on the programmed processor that receives a user command to select a link using the browser software segment;

a TCP/IP network stack receiving messages directed to an IP address from the browser software segment in response to the user command selecting a link, and issuing an HTTP request in response thereto directed to the IP address;

a middleware software module running on the programmed processor; and

an HTTP microserver having an IP address and running as a software segment on the programmed processor, the HTTP microserver comprising an interface module that interfaces with the middleware module by issuing an API call to the middleware software module in response to the HTTP request, the API call implementing the user command;

a segment of lower level software code and wherein the lower level software code segment carries out one of a memory write and a memory read operation under the direction of the API call.

44. (Currently Amended) An electronic storage medium storing instructions which, when executed on a programmed processor, carry out a process of controlling local hardware or software using a browser, comprising:

directing an HTTP request from a browser to a local HTTP microserver having an IP address;

at the HTTP microserver, parsing the HTTP request to identify a target interface module, and directing the HTTP request to the target interface module; and

at the target interface module, generating an API call from the HTTP request;

sending the API call to a middleware software module, wherein the middleware software module controls a lower level software code segment comprising a television tuner driver;

controlling a television tuner device using the television tuner driver; and

wherein the HTTP request from the browser comprises a request to change a television channel and the API call directs the television tuner driver to change the television channel selected by the television tuner.

45.-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Currently Amended) The electronic storage medium of claim 44 ~~claim 46~~, wherein the lower level software code segment carries out memory write operations under the direction of the API call.

51. (Original) The electronic storage medium of claim 44, wherein the HTTP request is directed to the HTTP microserver by a network stack.

52. (Original) The electronic storage medium of claim 44, wherein the network stack comprises a TCP/IP network stack.